

## SOME CONNECTICUT PLANTS.

R. W. WOODWARD.

*Panicum oricola*. Old Lyme, frequent on banks of tidal streams and along the shores of Long Island Sound. Orange, abundant on a salt marsh coated with sand. Specimens from these stations have been verified by Mrs. Agnes Chase.

*Agrostis alba aristata*. Old Lyme, frequent in rocky pastures.

*Alopecurus geniculatus aristulatus*. Franklin, abundant in a swampy depression in glacial gravel.

*Puccinellia paupercula alaskana*. This plant, reported from the Blackhall river, Old Lyme by Dr. C. B. Graves, occurs in the same town along the shore of Long Island Sound. At the latter station, on some of the plants, a few of the spikelets have noticeably longer glumes and lemmas, with the second glume 5-nerved and the lemma 7-nerved, which suggests a tendency to approach the var. *longiglumis* of Fernald and Weatherby.

*Juncus dichotomus*. Old Lyme, shore of Long Island Sound.

*Luzula campestris bulbosa*. Old Lyme, in hard dry soil. This station is of interest, as being north of the ordinary range of this variety, and also because the plants exhibit little of the caespitose character commonly associated with varieties of *Luzula campestris*. Of the hundred or more plants seen by the writer, the majority had only a single culm. The var. *multiflora*, growing on the edges of the station, was strongly caespitose, and showed no tendency to develop bulblets.

*Spergularia canadensis*. Old Lyme, fairly common along Blackhall river and on muddy shores near Long Island Sound. It occurs in colonies, and also associated with *S. leiosperma*. Groton is the only station reported in the Connecticut Catalogue.

*Parnassia caroliniana*. In eastern Connecticut, an essentially non-calcareous region, this species, which is commonly classed among the lime plants, is abundant in many places, as, for instance, at Franklin, where it is a common fall flower on wet meadows.

*Lechea Leggettii*. Plentiful about Wintergreen Lake, New Haven. The writer collected the plant at this station in 1903, and has seen it there many times since.

*Convolvulus spithameus*. The writer collected this species on a low gravel ridge in Franklin, in June, 1908, and has observed it growing at the same station nearly every year since that date. This appears to be the only station reported from Eastern Connecticut.

*Pedicularis lanceolata*. Franklin, frequent by streams and on low grounds.

*Bidens Eatoni*. Old Lyme, in brackish marshes, where it grows among tall grasses and sedges, and is not easy to detect till late in the season. The writer's first collection was made September 29, 1915. Professor M. L. Fernald states that the Lyme plant is "perfectly good *Bidens Eatoni*; exactly like the plant from the Merrimac marshes."

*Helenium nudiflorum*. A colony of several hundred plants in a remote pasture, at Old Lyme.

*Lapsana communis*. Well established in Franklin, where the writer has collected it for several years. New Haven is the only station reported in the Connecticut Catalogue.

*Sonchus arvensis*. Old Lyme, on gravelly shores.

Specimens of the above plants, with three exceptions, have been deposited in the Gray Herbarium, and the remaining plants will be deposited later.

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

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NOTE ON THE PROPER NAME FOR THE SASSAFRAS.—The scientific name of the common Sassafras, which has suffered at least two alterations within the past four decades, must once more be changed, although the name to be adopted is fortunately that by which the species has been most universally known. The plant was originally described by Linnaeus as *Laurus Sassafras* (Sp. i. 371 (1753)). Salisbury, in pursuance of that policy of "improving" scientific names to which he seems to have given freer rein than almost any other of the early botanists, based the new name *Laurus variifolia* (Prod. 344 (1796)) on *Laurus Sassafras* L. Sp. ed. 2. 530, without a word of description or annotation. His name is consequently a perfect example of the class of still-born names (*nomina abortiva*), which according to the International Rules of Nomenclature, as finally drawn up in 1910, are incapable of adoption unless employed by the first author who transferred the plant to its accepted position. The name *Sassafras*